

Filed for intro on 01/14/2002

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 604
By Hood

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Gary Rankin and the Riverdale High School football team on winning the 2001 Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Division 1 Class 5A state championship.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to salute the accomplishments of our best athletic teams, those with exceptional talent and determination who, as a result of being very successful, are an inspiration to their schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, the 2001 Riverdale High School football team, which won the 2001 Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Division 1 Class 5A state championship, is clearly one such admirable team; and

WHEREAS, the powerful Warriors had a marvelous, undefeated regular season with impressive victories over Dickson County 28-9, White's Creek 34-0, Lebanon 21-6, Lincoln County 42-0, Blackman 28-0, LaVergne 28-0, Franklin County 42-7, Oakland 43-6, Mt. Juliet 55-21 to clinch the Region 4 title, and Smyrna 51-7; and

WHEREAS, in the early rounds of the TSSAA playoffs, Riverdale beat Cumberland County 42-3, Blackman 27-16, Oakland 38-20, and Ootewah 35-7; and

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WHEREAS, in the fabled Blue Cross State Championship Bowl, the impressive Warriors defeated Hendersonville 35-7, to cap an unblemished 15-0 season; and

WHEREAS, this was Riverdale's third state title in football and their first one since 1997; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded Coach Gary Rankin and his very efficient staff, Assistant Coaches, Steve Britton, Ron Crawford, Ricky Field, Matt Gardner, Thomas McDaniel, Matt Snow, and Greg Wyant have done a superb job of developing the natural talent of the team, and through relentless training, preparing the Warriors for championship play; and

WHEREAS, the Warriors were led on their championship march by running back, Ralph King, the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association's Division I Class 5A "Mr. Football", and quarterback, Stephen Britton; the other members of the team were: Seniors Ward Poston, Marcus King, Jamaal Price, Terrell Coleman, Kevin Murray, Keith Bridges, Tron Baker, Edgar Martin, Jeremy Jackson, Edrell Smith, Will Bullock, John Goodwin, John Batey, Albert Miller, Clay Richardson, Brian Sawyer, Leon Alexander, Roger Winterbauer, Joe James, Matthew Parton, William Lee, Edward Belcher, Travis Livingston, Aubrey McClary, Dustin Davis, Curtis Smith, and Heath Evans; Juniors Corey Hathaway, Taron Henry, Grant Kolka, Stephen Britton, Brian Campbell, Anton Bates, Don Mitchell, Emanuel Oglesby, Matthew Pedigo, Daniel Gammon, Kris Kirby, Daniel Pukett, Micheal Grove, Brad Rainer, Ben Brazzell, Ronnie Johns, Andrew Bigford, Marvin Richardson, Kenyon Buford, Cotez Lawrence, Daniel Jones, David Nickens, Glen Suggs, Blake Sutton, Chad Neese, Jason Kidd, Jeremey Anderson and Rhyan Maupin; and Sophomores Trey Dalton, C.J. Powell, LaBrian Lyons, Jervell Ford, Jay Carter, Ryan Hallman, Alex Watson, Devin Young, John Paul Gadle, Spike McDaniel, Cedric Thompson, Andrew Morris, Jeremy Hurd, Kevin Davis, David Peterson, Tyler Campbell, A.J. Alexander, Brandon Faulkner, Charles Bigford, John Awokoya, Wes Hall, Charles Todd, and David Vari; each of these Warriors helped the team to reach the pinnacle of success this season; and

WHEREAS, Riverdale Principal Tom Nolen has been very supportive of the team; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to specially honor this outstanding team; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Gary Rankin and the Riverdale High School football team on winning the 2001 Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Division 1 Class 5A State Championship and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and to each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copy.